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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Oliver, et al.		
Appln. No.:	10/535,091	Case No.:	T1590YP
Filed:	May 13, 2005		
For:	VANILLOID RECEPTOR-2 LIGANDS FOR TREATING ANXIETY OR DEPRESSION		

Art Unit: 1649

Examiner: Ulm, J.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION

Sir:

This Communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed March 31, 2006.

The Examiner has objected to claims 22-54 as lacking a single inventive concept, and has required Applicant to select a single invention from the following: Group I (method of treatment by administering a VR2 polypeptide), Group II (method of treatment by administering a compound which modulates a VR2 polypeptide). Group III (method of treatment by administering a polynucleotide encoding a VR2 polypeptide) and Group IV (method of treatment by administering an antisense polynucleotide to a polynucleotide encoding a VR2 polypeptide). Applicants select, with traverse, Group II (method of treatment by administering a compound which modulates a VR2 polypeptide).

The Examiner has further required Applicants to select a disorder from among anxiety, depression and circadian rhythm disorders. Applicants select, with traverse, circadian rhythm disorders.

* * *

If any further issues warrant discussion, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned directly at (732) 594-2675.

No fees are believed to be due with this Communication. However, the Office is authorized to charge any appropriate fees to Deposit Account 13-2755.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Lathia Reynolds Date 4.14.06

Date: April 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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